Claim Amendments

1.(currently amended) A multi-beam power contact comprising:

a main body having a connector interface edge and a mounting edge;

a plurality of at least three beams extending from said connector interface edge of said main body and adapted to be electrically engaged with a mating connector; ~~and~~

each of said beams ~~comprising~~ having a contact area[[s]] adapted for electrical connection with the mating connector;

wherein at least one of said beams is an initial contact beam and at least one of said beams is a non-initial contact beam; and

wherein the contact area of said at least one initial contact beam is arranged to electrically connect to the mating connector before the contact area of said at least one non-initial contact beam electrically connects to the mating connector while said multi-beam power contact is being mated to the mating connector.

2.(original) The multi-beam power contact of claim 1, wherein at least two of said beams have different normal forces within a range of normal forces.

3.(original) The multi-beam power contact of claim 1, wherein said plurality of beams comprise at least eight beams divided into four pairs of opposed beams, each pair of opposed beams being adapted to engage opposite sides of the mating connector.

4.(canceled)

5.(currently amended) The multi-beam power contact of claim [[4]] 1, wherein said at least one initial contact beam extends further from said main body than said at least one non-initial contact beam.

6.(currently amended) The multi-beam power contact of claim [[5]] 1, wherein said plurality of beams comprise two of said initial contact beams and at least two of said non-initial contact beams.

7.(original) The multi-beam power contact of claim 1, wherein said beams are divided into two groups of beams arranged along two substantially parallel planes.

8.(original) The multi-beam power contact of claim 1, wherein said beams are formed integral with said main body.

9.(original) The multi-beam power contact of claim 1, wherein at least two of said beams are aligned in a common plane and separated by a slot.

10.(original) The multi-beam power contact of claim 1, wherein at least two of said beams are aligned in a common plane and have different widths at a point of intersection with said connector interface edge.

11.(currently amended) The multi-beam power contact of claim 1, wherein at least one of said beams has a length greater than a length of an adjacent said beam.

12.(currently amended) The multi-beam power contact of claim 1, wherein a said beam closest to said mounting edge is longer than any other said beam.

13.(currently amended) A power connector comprising:

a main body having a connector interface edge and a mounting edge;

a plurality of beam pairs extending from said connector interface edge of said main body;

each of said beam pairs ~~each~~ comprising two beams; ~~and~~

each of said beams ~~comprising~~ having a contact area[[s]] for electrical connection;

wherein at least one of said beam pairs is an initial contact beam pair and at least one of said beam pairs is a non-initial contact beam pair; and

wherein the contact areas of said at least one initial contact beam pair are arranged to electrically connect to a mating connector before the contact areas of said at least one non-initial contact beam pair electrically connect to the mating connector when said power connector is mated to the mating connector.

14.(original) The power connector of claim 13, wherein at least two of said beam pairs have different normal forces within a range of normal forces.

15.(currently amended) The power connector of claim 13, wherein said two beams ~~forming~~ of each said beam pair are aligned substantially symmetric to each other.

16.(canceled)

17.(currently amended) The power connector of claim ~~16~~ 13, wherein said at least one initial contact beam pair extends further from said main body than said at least one non-initial contact beam pair.

18.(currently amended) The power connector of claim ~~17~~ 13, wherein said plurality of beam pairs comprise a total of one said initial contact beam pair and at least two said non-initial contact beam pairs.

19.(original) The power connector of claim 13, wherein said beams are divided into two groups of beams arranged along two substantially parallel planes.

20.(original) The power connector of claim 13, wherein said beams are integral with said main body.

21.(original) The power connector of claim 13, wherein at least two of said beams are aligned in a common plane and separated by a slot.

22.(original) The power connector of claim 13, wherein at least two of said beams are aligned in a common plane and have different widths at a point of intersection with said connector interface edge.

23.(currently amended) The power connector of claim 13, wherein at least one said beam pair has a length greater than a length of an adjacent said beam pair.

24.(currently amended) The power connector of claim 13, wherein a said beam pair closest to said mounting edge is longer than any other said beam.

25.(currently amended) A power ~~connector, said power~~ connector comprising:

a main ~~body, said main~~ body comprising a first body portion and a second body portion;

each of said first and second body portions including a connector interface edge[[s]] and a mounting edge[[s]];

a plurality of beam pairs extending from said connector interface edges of said ~~main body~~ first and second body portions;

each of said beam pairs ~~each~~ comprising two beams;

each of said beams ~~comprising~~ having a contact area[[s]] for electrical connection;

wherein at least one of said beam pairs is an initial contact beam pair and at least one of said beam pairs is a non-initial contact beam pair; and

wherein the contact areas of said at least one initial contact beam pair are arranged to electrically connect to a mating connector before the contact areas of said at least one non-initial contact beam pair electrically connect to the mating connector while said power connector is mated to said mating connector..

26.(original) The power connector of claim 25, wherein at least two of said beam pairs have different normal forces within a range of normal forces.

27.(original) The power connector of claim 25, wherein each said beam pair is comprised of a first beam pair member extending from said connector interface edge of said first body portion and a second beam pair member extending from said connector interface edge of said second body portion.

28.(currently amended) The power connector of claim 27, wherein said first and second beam pair members ~~beams forming a~~ of each said beam pair are aligned substantially symmetric to each other.

29.(canceled)

30.(currently amended) The power connector of claim ~~29~~ 25, wherein said at least one initial contact beam pair extends further from said main body than said at least one non-initial contact beam pair.

31.(currently amended) The power connector of claim ~~30~~ 25, wherein said plurality of beam pairs comprise a total of one said initial contact beam pair and three said non-initial contact beam pairs.

32.(currently amended) The power connector of claim 25, wherein said main body comprises cross-beams connecting ~~joining~~ edges of said first and second body portions; and

one of said cross-beams ~~being~~ is located proximal to said connector interface edges.

33.(original) A power connector comprising:

a main body having a connector interface edge and a mounting edge;

a plurality of beam pairs extending from said connector interface edge of said main body;

said beam pairs each comprising two beams;

said beams comprising contact areas for electrical connection;

at least one of said beam pairs being an initial contact beam pair and at least one of said beam pairs being a non-initial contact beam pair; and

said contact areas of said at least one initial contact beam pair being arranged to electrically connect to a mating connector before the contact areas of said at least one non-initial contact beam pair electrically connect to the mating connector while said power connector is mated to the mating connector.

34.(original) The power connector of claim 33, wherein said beams are divided into two groups of beams arranged along two substantially parallel planes.

35.(original) The power connector of claim 33, wherein said beams are integral with said main body.

36.(original) The power connector of claim 33, wherein at least two of said beams are aligned in a common plane and separated by a slot.

37.(original) The power connector f claim 33, wherein at least two of said beams are aligned in a common plane and have different widths at a point of intersection with said connector interface edge.

38.(original) The power connector of claim 33, wherein at least one beam has a length greater than a length of an adjacent beam.

39.(original) The power connector of claim 33, wherein a beam pair closest to said mounting edge is longer than any other beam pair.